

## Academic Honors Diploma – Application

*“Academic Honors” will be printed on the Diploma and Transcript*

For: (Print student’s name) \_\_\_\_\_

*Please submit this application **with** the Diploma Request Form*

The **Diploma with Academic Honors** recognizes the student who has gone beyond the minimal academic requirements or has distinguished himself academically through additional course work. The Academic Honors Diploma is recommended for college preparatory students; with this in mind, the following criteria have been established and are **in addition to the general diploma criteria:** (*See the MDHSA Diploma Guide and the MDHSA Annual Summary Form and Transcript for general diploma requirements*). If a student has not exactly met the criteria for Academic Honors, but has demonstrated academic excellence, the parent may write a letter defending the request and it will be considered. However, be advised, that a requirement will not be entirely waived; there must be some coursework that takes its place.

**For Academic Honors consideration, all requirements below must be met / fulfilled AND CHECKED (unless otherwise noted) by the end of the senior year. Honors Application AND required attachments are due with the Diploma Request Form and should not be submitted separately.**

- Students applying for Academic Honors must use letter grades or percentages. Pass/Fail grades will not be accepted.

### English Requirements – ALL REQUIRED

- The student who desires an Academic Honors diploma will demonstrate that his reading selections have challenged him in some way. With that in mind, the student should have had an extensive reading list, with selections from more than three of the following categories, in his portfolio for each evaluation:

FICTION  
POETRY

NON-FICTION  
MAGAZINE ARTICLES

BIBLE  
CLASSICS

ESSAYS  
TECHNICAL

*Reading selections for the honors diploma should include a majority of high school or college level selections.*

- The student has had instruction in literary analysis. This includes learning terms such as:

SIMILE

METAPHOR

PLOT

FORESHADOWING

DOING RHYME, RHYTHM, AND METER IN POETRY

*Much of this information is found in literature texts or programs, or other materials.*

- The student has completed at least one research paper that is a minimum of five pages. The report should include: (*See English textbooks for examples of research papers.*)

○ THREE NON-ENCYCLOPEDIA RESOURCES (may include interviews)

○ COVER PAGE

○ OUTLINE

○ FOOTNOTES OR ENDNOTES

○ BIBLIOGRAPHY

Do not send the research paper to MDHSA. The evaluator should verify that the research paper for the Honors Diploma is well written and meets the above guidelines.

- The student has completed at least two years of foreign language study in a single language.

*Application continued on the next page.... SIGNATURES REQUIRED*

**Academic Honors Application Continued for: (Student's Name) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Science Requirement – MARK THE COURSES TAKEN; LAB COMPONENT REQUIRED**

The student has studied: (mark courses taken)

- Biology and Chemistry **OR**  Biology and Physics
- One science course (from above) was accompanied by a lab and a lab report. (See science texts, Internet for resources for lab reports). Indicate Course (from above) that include Lab \_\_\_\_\_

**Mathematics Requirement – INDICATE THE TRACK; MARK THE COURSES TAKEN**

Two tracks are given to satisfy the criteria of the Academic Honors program. **Please Note: "Keys To..." (Algebra, Geometry, etc.) may not be used in pursuit of an Academic Honors diploma. Courses MUST be a college prep level high school course.** Choose one of the following tracks, and mark the courses taken:

**Track 1 - Enriched Math Program**

**AT LEAST 3 UNITS OF MATH FROM THE FOLLOWING:**

- Algebra I  Trigonometry  Other college-preparatory course (list) \_\_\_\_\_
- Geometry  Pre-calculus
- Algebra II  Calculus

**Track 2 - Math with an Enriched Language Arts Program**

**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:**

**At least 3 units of Math that must include:**

- One unit in Algebra and one unit in Geometry **OR**  2 units of Algebra and Geometry integrated;
- AND**
- One unit of Consumer/Business Math or Accounting.

**PLUS**

- 5 English units **OR**  4 Social Studies units, **OR**  3 units of the same foreign language.

**REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:**

- A recommendation written by the Evaluator or other person who has worked with the student *in an academic setting* explaining why s/he is recommending the student for this honor. *A parent may not write an academic honors recommendation.*
- One sample (one-page) of the student's writing, either from the current year's work, or written specifically for the honors program application.

**SIGNATURES REQUIRED:**

*We certify that the all information given above and attached is not exaggerated, but is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge. (Signatures required below).*

Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Student \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Use only:**  
\_\_ All items checked \_\_ Recommendation: Received \_\_ Approved \_\_ 2 Yrs Foreign Language Courses: \_\_ Extra \_\_ Required Only  
\_\_ Writing sample: well written, grammatically correct, few if no spelling errors, legible Requirements met: \_\_ English \_\_ Math \_\_ Science  
APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ REASON FOR DENIAL: \_\_\_\_\_